

Sunday 2nd August 2020

A note from Linda

Greetings and welcome to this week's newsletter.

As you may have heard, Paul and I spent last weekend with friends on Kangaroo Island. We spent most of our time on the east/north east part of the island where we saw lots of lush green paddocks, kangaroos, sheep grazing, abundant wildlife and the occasional sign of recent bushfires. On Saturday we went to Flinders Chase National Park which has recently reopened. This is where we were most confronted with the scale of the damage done by the fires. It was very sobering to drive past km after km of burned out bush land. Yet, in so many places there was evidence of new growth. Green emerging out of the black. Even in the darkness, there is always hope.

Often we need to be confronted with things 'face to face' to be able to truly comprehend or empathise with a situation.

In worship this week, we will hear a story of Jacob coming face to face with God, and face to face with himself, all in anticipation of coming face to face with his brother, Esau, from whom he is estranged. These face to face encounters can be moments of true awakening.

We will be also celebrate Communion together. If you are joining us online, please prepare your own bread or cracker and juice or wine. If you are joining us onsite, the elements will be provided. Come prepared for it to be meaningful and different to what you are used to!

Plus we will acknowledge a significant anniversary - Nola Pearce has been an accredited Lay Preacher for 40 years! I hope you can join us onsite or online.

Linda Driver

Worship Onsite

It is so important for us to be vigilant with regard to our response to COVID-19. There are things we miss and changes we don't like. We are currently blessed to be able to worship together, so let's take on these temporary changes as a demonstration of the love we have for one another.

As you prepare to come to worship onsite, here are some important things to remember...

- Please don't come if you are unwell.
- Wear warm clothes! We aren't kidding when we say you'll need this! We'll have the exhaust fans on and windows open to keep the air circulating - this reduces the risks of COVID, especially as we will be singing.
- Avoid parking next to the top hall - this space is still being used by Medical HQ.
- Once you enter, you will be welcomed with a warm *Hello*, and possibly an elbow or toe tap. (Please refrain from handshaking, kissing or hugging at church for the time being).
Please remember that we are still being encouraged to maintain the physical distancing of 1.5 m when gathering with others outside of our immediate household.
You'll be signed in (as we need to keep a record of attendance) and please use the hand sanitiser provided.
- Seating is spaced out to allow for physical distancing. Those who come from the same household can sit together (if you wish to!)
- The Offering will be received at the end of the service. A receptacle will be provided near the exit. We continue to encourage regular giving through direct debit or electronic transfer.
- Morning tea will not be provided. We encourage you to connect with others by either having a coffee at a local café to support their business (many of our folk frequent Caffè Settebello and the Rezz on Sundays) or consider inviting others to share a coffee in your home.
- I encourage you to approach the 'Zoom screen' at the back of the church before and after the service and interact with those who are connecting online. It's important for us to help everyone feel welcome and included wherever they are.
- More details are in the letter from Jeff Dry (Church Council chairperson), sent out on July 11.

Postal Address: PO Box 307, Athelstone, SA 5076

Office Email: office@athelstonechurch.org.au

Minister Email: minister@athelstonechurch.org.au

Newsletter: newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au

Office Coordinator: Carol Lang

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Office Phone: (08) 8336 9905

Web: athelstonechurch.org.au

Please email newsletter items to newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au by 5pm Wednesday.

Worship Online or at Home

If you choose not to attend for whatever reason, you can view the service as it is happening, using the same Zoom link as before: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86912199103>

Meeting ID: 869 1219 9103

We will also provide a lectionary-based Worship at Home resource.

Church Council report

Council met this week and a number of decisions were made which are of interest to the congregation

Medical HQ – the Federal Government has requested that Medical HQ extend their Covid-19 GP Respiratory Clinic given the government's desire to maintain the current testing regime. A new Agreement has been created that sees the clinic operating until 30/10/2020 or earlier as advised by Medical HQ to the Athelstone Uniting Church. Church Council has given its approval for this extension and the Medical HQ management are very grateful to our church community for this show of support. The success of the testing regime, which has now tested over 1000 patients, has seen the clinic increase its hours and days of operation.

Morning tea - it has been decided to continue not holding morning teas after church for the time being with an anticipated commencement occurring on the first week in September. With still much uncertainty and accompanying restrictions surrounding the serving of food and refreshments Church Council believes there is still an element of risk associated given the very strict guidelines of how to prepare, serve and clear up.

We are aware that some members of our Church family are feeling the loss of not sharing morning tea with friends following the morning service but we ask everyone to be patient. It has been good to see many of our congregation enjoying morning tea in some of the local cafes or private homes and this practice is encouraged for at least the next month when hopefully we will have a much clearer picture of what life will be like. As our kitchen remains closed, if you are here early for worship practice or a volunteering role then please BYO coffee/tea in the morning if you want it. Our thanks to those on the morning tea roster but your time come soon enough and we will need to create new rosters for this time.

Signage – a small working group is being established to review the church signage with the view to making some recommendations for how we can communicate our message to the community. The current signage has served us well but it is important now to reflect on how we can share who and what we are at Athelstone Uniting Church. It also provides us with the opportunity to see how we can provide a visual opportunity for the exciting range of activities on offer on our site.

Congratulations – as we know Linda has been studying hard during her time with us and this has culminated in her being awarded her undergraduate degree which was supposed to be presented to her in a graduation ceremony in May but due to Covid-19 this had to be postponed. We congratulate Linda on this achievement.

Huge thanks – Church Council acknowledges the tremendous contribution Carol has made to keep our church operations functioning smoothly in this difficult period. There is so much of what Carol has been doing that goes unnoticed but she has been working tirelessly on such actions as organising all the Covid compliance requirements as part of our Covid Safe Plan, getting the new rosters completed, liaising with the hirers and providing fantastic support to Linda.

Jeff Dry, Chairperson

Congregational Meeting

Church Council wishes to advise you that a short Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday 16 August at 11am following our morning service. Please join us if you are able.

TRIPLE C's (Chaps Coffee Chatter)

Next meeting August 5 at Marche Club corner Darley and Gorge Roads Paradise at 12noon. Cost \$18.00 for meal, which being of Italian origin suggests an evening meal will not be required! 18 Chaps booked in, waitlist only now. If you need a lift contact Bob Stevenson or Ray Walter. *Ray Walter*

TOFS

Our next TOFS coffee and catch up will be held on Tuesday 4th August at St Georges Bakehouse (272 Montacute Rd, Rostrevor) at 2 pm. It was wonderful to have 18 happy people turn up for our latest chat together. All are welcome. Please let me know if you are coming so that there will be a chair for you.

Sheralyn

Threads

If you enjoy creating with thread, or would like to learn, and/or enjoy a chat over a cuppa, come join us 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 2-4pm.

Jeanine and Linda

Book Club

Book Club meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9 am for those who are able to do so. We are back into reading Denise Champion's *Yarta Wandatha*. Anyone is welcome to join us. We'll be at Indigo Espresso Café in the Athelstone Shopping Centre.

Stay and Play @ Home & Wirra Play Day

Our beautiful local gum trees have framed our patch for many years.

Families received their first Term 3 program @ Home this week exploring the theme "From little seeds grow mighty trees". Plans are in progress for families to enjoy a Wirra Play Day on Tuesday 18th August. Activities will be dependent on sufficient team members, the ability to comply with C19 guidelines and access to our storage areas. To assist families with more social interaction for their preschoolers, we are encouraging families to connect with a "buddy family".

Stay and Play @ Home dates for Term 3 are 11th Aug, 25th Aug, 8th Sept and 22nd Sept.

Bruce and Joy Stewart



Communion Workshop

Do you have questions about communion? What does it mean? Why do it? Grape juice or wine? Pre-cut bread or loaf? What is said when serving the bread, or the wine? What about the liturgy – what can be cut out? What needs to be included? How can children be involved? How does the current necessity for being COVID safe change our practice? Join Linda at the Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts' event to explore and discuss the ins and outs of the sacrament of communion. Led by Rev. Dr Sean Gilbert and Rev. John Hughes. This event is for everyone - those who buy and prepare the elements, those who preside, those who serve, and those who receive.

Date: Tuesday, 8 September **Time:** 7.30-9pm **Cost:** \$10/person **Venue:** Burnside City Uniting Church, 384 Portrush Road, Tasmore 5065. For more information please contact admin@cmla.org.au

Watercolour Workshop with Karan Hudson

Many of us seek solace and renewal in certain landscapes; Flinders Ranges, Kuitpo Forest, a favourite stretch of coast, creeks, waterfalls, billabongs, bushwalks, desert treks, trails and wanderings in the landscape can lead us closer to the heart of God. Bring photos or sketches of these landscapes as reference images in a workshop where you will experiment with and learn watercolour techniques to express elements of your journey there. Materials will be provided. **Date:** Saturday 19 September; **Time:** 10am-4pm; **Venue:** The Corner Uniting Church, 93 Oaklands Road (Cnr Oaklands & Diagonal Roads), Warradale SA 5046; **BYO** food and drinks. **Cost:** \$100 (includes tuition and all materials) Book early as places are limited!

https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=643062&mc_cid=5391ca42f9&mc_eid=1cd3d6f2be

President's Conference

"Called by God - living our Christian vocation in our daily life"

The theme of the conference is Christian vocation. One of the core themes of the Uniting Church is "every member ministry". We will explore what this looks like in its many forms, from local churches through to Uniting Church agencies and schools through to faithful people serving in and living out their Christian discipleship in their relationships, families, communities and daily life. You can join the conference in one of three ways.

1. In Adelaide at U-city. There will be a limit on the number of people who can gather here, we continue to monitor guidelines as to how many this can be (currently 75 people are allowed), if the current 4m² per person continues, we can have a maximum of 80 attendees. The cost is \$250 plus \$10 processing fee
2. In hubs. We are hoping to offer at least one hub in each state where people can gather and participate in the conference in a group of 8-12.. More information about hubs will be available soon. The cost is \$75 plus \$10 processing fee
3. Online. You will be able to livestream the conference into your home and be able to join in a virtual group for discussion.

Date: October 2-5, 2020, **Venue:** U-City: 43 Franklin Street, Adelaide, **Cost:** \$75 plus \$10 processing fee.

For more information and to express your interest in participating contact Neryl McCallum: NerylM@nat.uca.org.au

Church Rosters

The church roster for Aug-Oct has been released. I have been notified of a few minor modifications that now need to be made but I will try to keep any changes to a minimum and will release an updated version with a few replacements next week. If you discover you have fallen off the roster and still wish to be included, then please let me know and I can put you on a back-up list if people need to someone to fill in for them.

Carol Lang

Cleaning Supplies

Disposable Gloves, Anti-bacterial Cleaning Wipes, Disinfectant, Toilet Cleaner and Floor Cleaner for cleaning have been placed in the Cleaning Cupboard in the disabled toilet. There is a black key box stuck (magnetic) to the side of this cupboard. Please pick up the key box, depress the two buttons on the sides to pop open the lid and access the key. Please access these supplies if you have a volunteer role that requires cleaning or wiping down surfaces. There is also some anti-bacterial spray, wipes and Handy Andy Floor Cleaner located in the cleaning cupboard in the lower hall [(if you can get past the child safety lock (press buttons on side and slide))]. The mop for use in the bathrooms is located in the corner of the disabled toilet. There are also mops in the lower hall cleaning cupboard for use in the lower hall which need to remain here, along with some floor cleaner, for use by one of our hirers.

Food Donations to Uniting Communities

Food or cash donations for Uniting Communities Eastern Services Branch Emergency Relief Program are still welcomed at any time. For more information contact Brenton Summers. Phone 0400 632 829.

Pastoral care

The Pastoral Care Oversight Team have developed a network of people who are checking in on and praying for each other regularly. Whilst this provides structured ways of caring for people, we encourage you to still continue to reach out and love and care for one another, as so many of you do so well within our church community, and also those around us. Please do let us know if you are in need of support.

Contact a member of our Pastoral Care Oversight Team for assistance:

Brenton Summers 0400 632 829 Rev Linda Driver 0458 500 656 Bob Stevenson 0400 641 242 Ann Brown 0413 581 554 Lee O'Connell 0438 865 508

Prayer Requests

Can we support you in prayer? Here's how:

Prayer Chain - send an email to, or call Brenton Summers, who will pass your prayer request on to a group of people who faithfully pray in response to Prayer Chain emails.

Confidential Prayers - if the issue is more personal you are invited to contact Linda for individual prayer or one the members of the Pastoral Care Oversight team (Brenton Summers, Ann Brown, Bob Stevenson and Linda). All prayer requests going to the team will be kept strictly confidential within this team.

Prayers for Others (Sunday Worship) If you have something you would like to be included, please contact Linda.

"We are all called to pray for one another, and so we are all encouraged to offer to pray for, or with others, especially if they share a concern with you." (James 5:13-16)

How to give electronically

Regular electronic giving or one off donations can be made using the following details:

Account name: Athelstone Uniting Church Account BSB: 704 095 Account number: 110043

Application forms for setting up regular e-giving through UC e-give are available at <https://ucinvest.com.au/forms-and-information#page=page-1>. Contact Glen Luestner for more information.

Wider Church news - <https://sa.uca.org.au>

You can also subscribe to receive UC E-News personally at <https://sa.uca.org.au/uc-e-news/>

The New Times is available online as well at <https://sa.uca.org.au/new-times/new-times-print-edition/>

Lectionary readings

Refer to your Uniting Church Calendar for lectionary readings and key dates.

Church Bookings

Day	Time	Location	Hirer
Monday	4.45 -6.45pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Monday	6.30 – 8.30pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesday	9.30 – 10.30am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesday	6.30 – 8.30pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wednesday	9.30 – 10.30am	Lower hall	Pilates
Thursday	6.30 – 7.30pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Thursday	7.30-8.30pm	Main auditorium	Worship Practice
Saturday	9.30 – 12 noon	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturday	9.30 – 11.30am	Lower hall	Pilates
At all times	Clinic operates Mon-Fri 1230-5.30pm but top hall remains out of bounds at all other times	Top hall & Top carpark	Medical HQ

**Practice
Good
Hygiene**



Church Roster

	2 nd Aug	9 th Aug	16 th Aug
Prayer with Preacher	Glen Luestner	Robyn Fry	Sheralyn Robertson
Preacher	Linda Driver	Linda Driver	Linda Driver
Worship Leader	Di Curtis	Robyn Stevenson	Lynton Nicholas
Sound	Don Brown	Noel Maywald	Noel Maywald
Data	David Walker	Shelley Walker	David Walker
Chair Steward	Bob Stevenson Howard Jacob	Paul Howland Glen Luestner	Sharon Tilley Scott Tilley
Flowers	Jenny Riggall	Carole Walter	Marie Hickman
Building Steward	Noel Maywald	Paul Howland	Paul Howland
Door Greeter	David Riggall Jenny Riggall	Raelene Anderson Robert Anderson	Sam George Crisi George
Tick and Flick	Trevor Curtis	Brenton Summers	Trevor Curtis
Notices	Paul Howland	Paul Howland	Paul Howland
Bible Reader	Lee O'Connell	Janet Luestner	Sylvia Maywald
Count Offering	Sylvia Maywald Paul Howland	Friederike Ashby-Weiss Lynton Nicholas	Sylvia Maywald Paul Howland
Cleaning	Jayne Nicholas Lynton Nicholas	Sheralyn Robertson	Howard Jacob
Communion Prep	Robyn Stevenson		
Communion Servers	Sheralyn Robertson Robyn Fry Stella Waugh		

It is still your responsibility to swap with someone if you can no longer do the date you are rostered on. Please note, that it is very important during this pandemic, that you do not attend services when you are unwell. Please swap with someone, or if late notice on the Sunday morning, then contact Linda Driver (0458 500 656) or the worship leader for that service. Thank you.